

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-13 (Canceled)

14. (New) A dried emulsion comprising a matrix comprising a water-soluble or water-dispersible polymer and having dispersed therein a liquid hydrophobic phase, wherein:

the water-soluble or water-dispersible polymer comprised in the matrix comprises a water-soluble or water-dispersible block copolymer comprising one or more hydrophilic blocks A and one or more hydrophilic blocks B, said copolymer being alone or in a mixture with another water-soluble or water-dispersible polymer, the weight ratio between the hydrophobic phase and the matrix is greater than 50/50, optionally greater than 70/30, optionally greater than 80/20, and the matrix comprises at least 50% by weight of water-soluble or water-dispersible polymer.

15. (New) The dried emulsion of the preceding claim, further comprising an emulsifier compound.

16. (New) The dried emulsion of claim 14, wherein the matrix comprises at least 80% by weight of water-soluble or water-dispersible polymer.

17. (New) The dried emulsion of dried emulsion of claim 14, wherein the matrix comprises not more than 20%, optionally not more than 10%, by weight of a salt.

18. (New) The dried emulsion of claim 14, wherein the hydrophobic phase comprises silicones, fragrances, organic, mineral or vegetable or mineral oils, said oils and derivatives being non-water-miscible, non-water-miscible organic solvents, non-water-soluble or -dispersible active substances, as solutions, dispersions or emulsions.

19. (New) The dried emulsion of the preceding claim, wherein the hydrophobic phase is a composition comprising a non-water-miscible intermediate phase having dispersed therein an internal phase which is not miscible or not soluble in the intermediate phase.

20. (New) The dried emulsion of claim 14, wherein the weight ratio between the block(s) A and the block(s) B is greater than or equal to 50/50.

21. (New) The dried emulsion of claim 14, wherein the water-soluble or water-dispersible polymer is an A-B diblock copolymer or A-B-A triblock copolymer wherein the block A is hydrophilic and the block B is hydrophobic.

22. (New) The dried emulsion of claim 14, wherein at least one block, optionally at least two, derives from ethylenically unsaturated monomers, optionally mono-alpha-ethylenically unsaturated monomers.

23. (New) A process for preparing a dried emulsion as defined in claim 14, comprising the following steps:

a) preparing an emulsion comprising an aqueous phase having dispersed therein the liquid hydrophobic phase in dispersion in water, the emulsion comprising the water-soluble or water-dispersible copolymer the matrix alone or in a mixture with another

water-soluble or water-dispersible polymer, and optionally, further, an emulsifier compound,

b) removing the water to give a dried emulsion,

c) optionally converting the dried emulsion into powder or granules, and

d) recovering the dried emulsion.

24. (New) The process of claim 23, wherein in step b) the water is removed by thin-film evaporation, lyophilization, or by spray-drying the emulsion.

25. (New) The process of claim 23, wherein the proportion by weight between the aqueous phase and the hydrophobic phase is between 5% and 99% and wherein the water comprises less than 0.5 mol/L of salt.

26. (New) A crop protection formulations a laundrycare formulations, a dishwashing formulations a cosmetic formulation, a household or skincare or baby care wipe, a diaper pant, a building-material comprising a dried emulsion as defined in claim 14.